

there is only a reaching out on our part and a conditioning of ourselves to receive its stimulus. From the great storehouse of thought accumulated and accumulating, from the inspiring fountains of modern life, we should draw our mental food and drink, and not dwarf ourselves with the husks of commonplace and the skim-milk of gossipy nonsense. Doubtless our college occupies one of the best possible positions, yet tendencies may arise out of the very nature of this situation, which it will be necessary to guard.

DEATH has been among us with a heavy hand. In the present Academic year three members of the Board of Governors and a member of Acadia's Senate have passed away. Of these, D. R. Eaton, Esq., was the first. He had been a Governor of the college sixteen years, and was highly esteemed as a man of integrity and ability. His enterprise and success in business were well known, and his counsel much valued by the denomination. Of Rev. Dr. DeBlois and his services for the college, we have recently spoken.

Now we have to record the death, at Digby on the 15th ult., of Rev. J. A. Durkee. Mr. Durkee graduated in 1873, and took his M. A. in 1877. He distinguished himself in college and at the time of his death was widely known as an able thinker and preacher. He had a mind of rare insight and power, and was successful in every field of labor to which he was called. His devotion to his work was great and, had he lived, no doubt his record would have been equal to the promise of his early years. He was a member of the Senate of Acadia, and his early death will cause sorrow to many whose esteem he had won.

On the 22nd ult., Avard Longley, Esq., died at his home in Paradise, N. S. His name is familiar in the provinces. As a member of the House of Assembly, and later of the House of Commons, he was known for many years as an able and consistent public man, who

gave earnest attention to every question and acted with decision and effect. He was twice called to preside over the Baptist Convention, and discharged the duties of his office with tact and ability. He was elected a Governor of Acadia in 1874, in place of the late Hon. Judge Johnstone, and held office till his death. But other journals will record at length the services of these gentlemen to various public interests. It is ours only to note with grateful remembrance their labors on behalf of education. Time, thought, money, they freely gave to the cause they loved. Other men will take their places, but these honored names will be kept in remembrance by the many who will enter into the fruit of their labor in years to come.

THE *University Monthly* in reply to an editorial in the last number of the ATHENÆUM, reiterates its opinions in respect to government appointments. It says:—

"Our interests must at all times be stronger in a natural born citizen than in one who has become such through naturalization, probably more for his personal interest than for the benefit of his adopted country. And that preference should be given the graduates of the University, we still maintain. The sooner such a conclusion is arrived at, the more quickly will students decide to patronize that institution which is in direct connection with those departments, over the government of which we think our men should be placed if they are capable of fulfilling the duties devolving upon them."

The *must* in the above quotation may imply obligation or simply necessity, but in either case the inference seems to be that, in addition to fitness, personal interest, not right, not benefit of the country is to be taken as a basis of selection. Is this sound? We do not hold that men should be imported to fill positions, when there are capable men, not otherwise needed, at home; but when a man has been admitted to the privileges of citizenship, and has served his country as long and as well as his neighbor, we cannot see wherein his foreign birth can destroy the equal-